

Introduced by Senator Simitian

February 15, 2007

An act to add Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 24600) to Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to pollution prevention.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 291, as introduced, Simitian. Pollution prevention: California Design for the Environment Program.

Under existing law, the Department of Toxic Substances Control generally regulates hazardous waste and hazardous substances.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency administers the federal Design for the Environment program.

This bill would authorize the Director of Toxic Substances to establish the California Design for the Environment Program, to achieve specified purposes related to pollution prevention, including goals concerning green chemistry and green engineering. The bill would authorize the director to establish linkages with other states' agencies and university-based programs, in order to draw on the knowledge of other experts. The bill would require the director, to the extent practicable, to use existing resources to achieve the purposes of the program, and would authorize the director to seek and receive specified funding to support the program.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 24600) is added to Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

CHAPTER 5. CALIFORNIA DESIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAM

24600. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) The federal Design for the Environment program, administered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, works in partnership with a broad range of stakeholders to reduce hazards to people and the environment by preventing pollution.

(b) The federal Design for the Environment program focuses on industries that combine the potential for reducing chemical hazards with a strong motivation to make lasting, positive changes.

(c) The federal Design for the Environment program convenes partners, including industry representatives and environmental groups, to develop goals and guide the work of the partnership.

(d) The federal Design for the Environment program has reached more than 200,000 business facilities and approximately 2,000,000 workers, reducing the use of chemicals of concern by approximately 237,000,000 pounds per year.

24601. The Director of Toxic Substances may establish the California Design for the Environment Program, to achieve all of the following purposes:

(a) Implement green chemistry, green engineering and design for the environment, throughout supply chains.

(b) Promote education and provide information on safer chemicals and products.

(c) Identify existing and needed information on hazards and safer alternatives, to promote green chemistry.

(d) Provide a forum for soliciting comments from a broad range of participants from academia and nongovernmental organizations, with expertise and interest in sustainability and green chemistry.

(e) Identify the array of technologies, products, and processes that can be used to perform a particular function within an industry, and related pollution prevention opportunities.

1 24602. The Director of Toxic Substances may establish
2 linkages with other states' agencies and university-based programs,
3 in order to draw on the knowledge of other experts.

4 24603. (a) The Director of Toxic Substances, to the extent
5 practicable, shall utilize existing resources to achieve the purposes
6 of this chapter.

7 (b) The Director of Toxic Substances may seek and receive
8 available foundation grants, special funds, and federal funds to
9 support the California Design for the Environment Program.

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